

## PUBLIC NOTICE

### **IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR DRINKING WATER Standards Exceeded for Alpha Emitters and Combined Radium (226 & 228) in Farmington Drinking Water: 2010 Update**



**Este informe contiene información muy importante sobre su agua potable.  
Tradúzcalo o hable con alguien que lo entienda bien.**

#### **What drinking water violations have occurred at Farmington?**

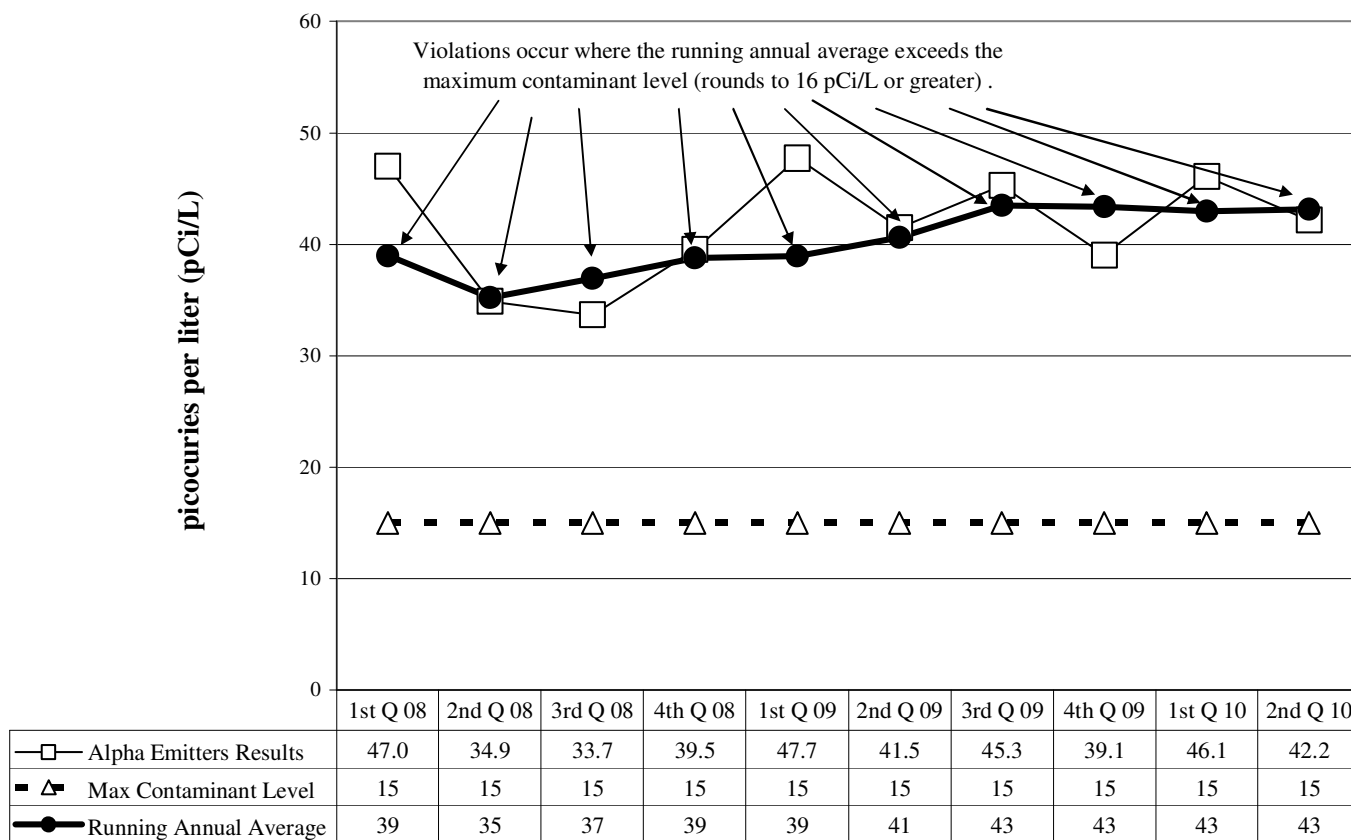
Our water system, Farmington (ID # MO4010270, St. Francois Co.), has violated the drinking water standards for two regulated contaminants since 2002: alpha emitters and combined radium (226 & 228). Although this is not an emergency, as customers, you have a right to know what happened and what we are doing to correct this situation. We routinely monitor for the presence of hundreds of potential drinking water contaminants, about 90 of which are regulated. The term “regulated” in this situation means a maximum contaminant level (MCL) has been set that a public water system may not exceed. Several radioactive contaminants are part of this regulated group.

#### **Alpha Emitters**

The maximum contaminant level for alpha emitters is 15 picocuries per liter (pCi/L) and is based on the running annual average (RAA) of quarterly samples. From the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter of 2009 through the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter of 2010 the running annual average was 43 pCi/L. Since this exceeds the MCL, this public water system is in violation for that time period. Quarterly results ranged from a minimum of 39.1 pCi/L to a maximum of 46.1 pCi/L during this interval. Certain minerals are radioactive and may emit a form of radiation known as alpha radiation. Some people who drink water containing alpha emitters in excess of the MCL over many years may have an increased risk of getting cancer.

The graph and table below summarize results over the past two and a half years:

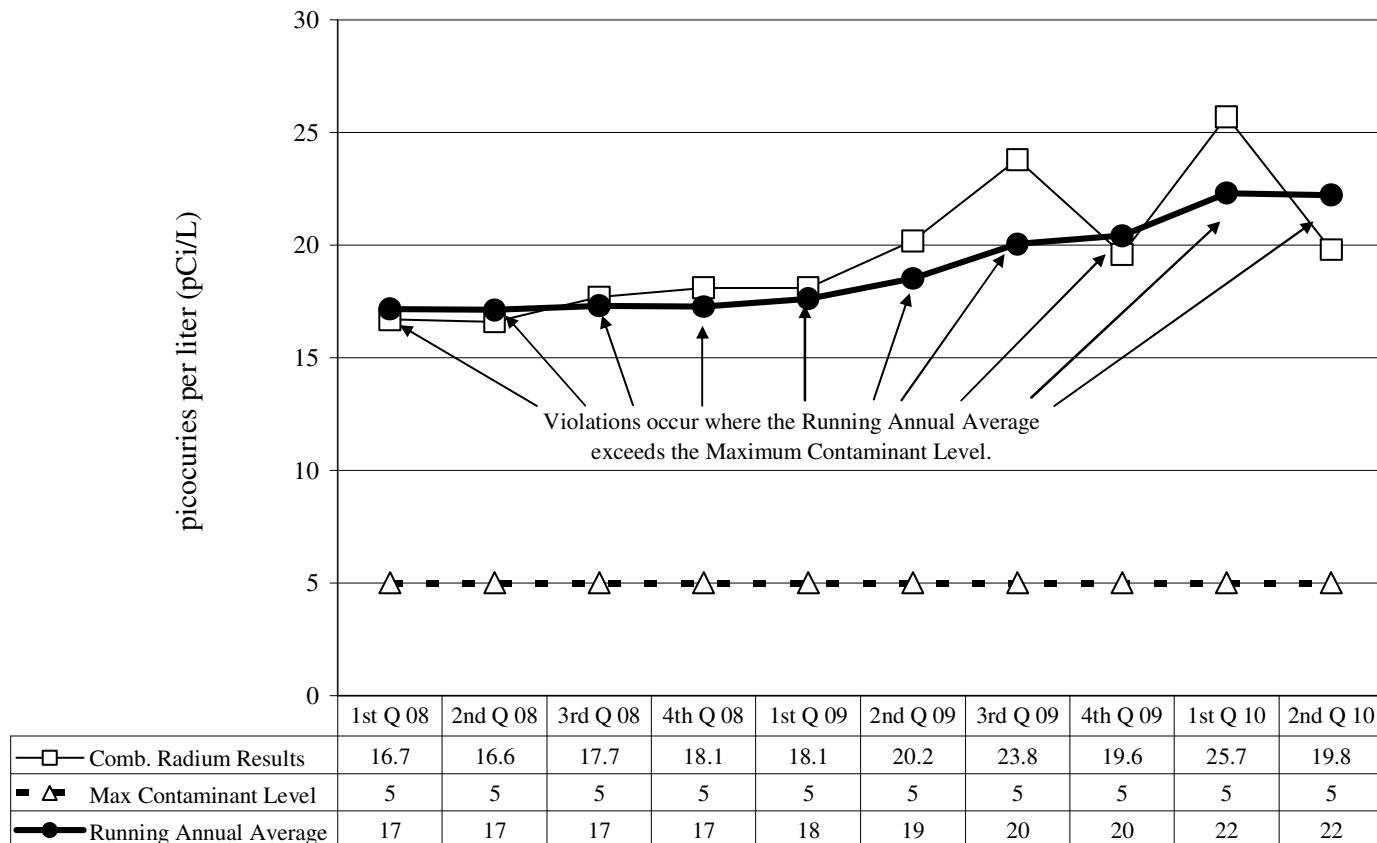
**Alpha Emitters Farmington: 1st Quarter 2008 through 2nd Quarter 2010**



### Combined Radium (226 & 228)

The MCL for combined radium (226 & 228) is 5 pCi/L and is also based on the running annual average of quarterly samples. From the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter of 2009 through the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter of 2010 the running annual average was 22 pCi/L. Since this exceeds the MCL, this public water system is in violation for that time period. Quarterly results ranged from a minimum of 19.6 pCi/L to a maximum of 25.7 pCi/L. Some people who drink water containing radium 226 or 228 in excess of the MCL over many years may have an increased risk of getting cancer.

Combined Radium at Farmington: 1st Quarter 2008 through 2nd Quarter 2010



### Do I need to take any special precautions? No:

1. It is not necessary to use an alternative (e.g., bottled) water supply. However, if you have specific health concerns, consult your doctor.
2. Do **not** boil your drinking water. Unlike treatment for microbial contamination, boiling will not correct the problem.

### What is being done to correct the problem? (Describe corrective action.)

The City is trying several methods to remove the radionuclides from drinking water. For more information, please contact water system staff indicated below:

Mayor Stuart Landrun at 573-756-1134 or 110 Columbia, Farmington, MO 63640-0110  
(name of water system contact) (phone number) (mailing address)

Additionally you may contact the Missouri Department of Natural Resources' Public Drinking Water Branch at 573-751-5331 or Southeast Regional Office at 573-840-9750.

Please share this information with all the other people who drink this water, especially those who may not have received this notice directly (for example, people in apartments, nursing homes, schools, and businesses). You can do this by posting this notice in a public place or distributing copies by hand or mail. This notice is being sent to you by: Farmington, ID#: MO4010270.

Date mailed or hand delivered: \_\_\_\_\_

AlphaRadPN